

**SENATE BILL NO. 204**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR REVAK

Introduced: 2/22/22

Referred: Resources, Finance

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1   **"An Act relating to auctions or raffles for hunting harvest permits and big game tags;**  
2   **and providing for an effective date."**

3   **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4    \* **Section 1.** AS 16.05.343(a) is amended to read:

5           (a) The department may donate each year for a competitive auction or raffle  
6           **up to two** harvest permits for [FOUR] elk from the Etolin, **Afognak, or Raspberry**  
7           Island **herds** [HERD] and one **harvest permit for** bison. The donation may be made  
8           only to a nonprofit corporation established to promote education in outdoor traditions  
9           and **wildlife** conservation and wildlife protection programs in partnership with the  
10          department, subject to the terms of a memorandum of agreement developed by the  
11          department.

12   \* **Sec. 2.** AS 16.05.343(c) is amended to read:

13           (c) The department, subject to regulations adopted by the commissioner, may  
14          issue, through a competitive auction or raffle, up to **four** [THREE] harvest permits

1 each year for each of the following species: emperor goose, Dall sheep, [UP TO  
 2 TWO HARVEST PERMITS EACH YEAR FOR] bison, [AND UP TO FOUR  
 3 HARVEST PERMITS EACH YEAR FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING BIG  
 4 GAME SPECIES:] musk ox, brown or grizzly bear, black bear, moose, caribou, goat,  
 5 elk, and wolf. Subject to regulations, if the department issues permits that allow  
 6 persons to view bears in the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary established  
 7 under AS 16.20.160 and 16.20.162, the department may issue up to four of the  
 8 viewing permits through a competitive auction or raffle. Notwithstanding  
 9 AS 36.30, the department may authorize a qualified organization selected under (e) of  
 10 this section to conduct the auction or raffle on behalf of the department. If the  
 11 department does authorize a qualified organization to conduct an auction or raffle for a  
 12 [BIG GAME] species, the department shall make available to a qualified organization  
 13 at least one harvest permit for that species. [IF THE AUCTION OR RAFFLE IS  
 14 CONDUCTED BY A QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION, THE ORGANIZATION  
 15 MAY RETAIN AN AMOUNT FROM THE GROSS PROCEEDS OF THE  
 16 AUCTION OR RAFFLE EQUAL TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE COST OF THE  
 17 AUCTION OR RAFFLE PLUS AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED 30 PERCENT OF  
 18 THE NET PROCEEDS. THE PERCENT OF THE PROCEEDS FROM THE  
 19 AUCTION OR RAFFLE OF A BIG GAME HARVEST PERMIT RETAINED BY  
 20 THE ORGANIZATION MAY BE USED ONLY TO SUPPORT OUTDOOR  
 21 TRADITION EDUCATION PROJECTS AND CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE  
 22 PROTECTION PROGRAMS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND MAY  
 23 NOT BE USED TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO ANY CANDIDATE FOR  
 24 POLITICAL OFFICE OR TO ANY ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING OR  
 25 OPPOSING BALLOT PROPOSITIONS OR TO PAY EXPENSES ASSOCIATED  
 26 WITH LOBBYING THE LEGISLATURE OR ADMINISTRATION. ALL  
 27 PROCEEDS FROM THE AUCTION OR RAFFLE OF THE BIG GAME HARVEST  
 28 PERMIT LESS THE AMOUNT THAT IS RETAINED BY A QUALIFIED  
 29 ORGANIZATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE  
 30 FISH AND GAME FUND UNDER AS 16.05.100.] A person who is issued a [BIG  
 31 GAME] harvest permit under this subsection shall receive upon the person's request a

complimentary hunting license and, if applicable, a big game tag for the [BIG GAME] species for which the [BIG GAME] harvest permit is issued. A hunting license issued under this subsection must bear the inscription "Commissioner's [GOVERNOR'S] license" or a similar designation. Except as provided in (f) of this section, a [A] person who receives a [BIG GAME] harvest permit, hunting license, or big game tag under this subsection may exercise the privileges conveyed by the permit, license, or tag only in accordance with applicable law. In this subsection, "qualified organization" means an organization selected under (e) of this section.

\* **Sec. 3.** AS 16.05.343(e) is amended to read:

(e) The department may select a nonprofit organization that promotes education in outdoor traditions and wildlife conservation and that conducts wildlife conservation and wildlife protection programs to conduct auctions or raffles for the department under (c) of this section. An organization selected under this subsection is a qualified organization for purposes of (c) of this section if the organization

(1) is incorporated in the state as a nonprofit corporation; and

(2) in the judgment of the department, demonstrates support for a state-based model through a user-pays system based on sustained yield and use principles.

\* **Sec. 4.** AS 16.05.343 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(f) If an auction or raffle is conducted by an organization qualified under (e) of this section, the organization may retain an amount from the gross proceeds of the auction or raffle equal to the administrative cost of the auction or raffle plus an additional amount from the auction or raffle not to exceed 30 percent of the net proceeds if the organization will use the funds to support outdoor tradition and wildlife conservation education projects and wildlife conservation and wildlife protection programs approved by the department.

(g) Proceeds from a raffle or lottery held under this section may be used only by an organization qualified under (e) of this section for the purposes provided by (f) of this section, and may not be used to make a contribution to a candidate for political office or to an organization supporting or opposing ballot propositions or paying expenses associated with lobbying the legislature or administration. All proceeds from the auction or raffle of the harvest permit less the amount that is retained by a

1 qualified organization under this subsection shall be deposited in the fish and game  
2 fund under AS 16.05.100.

3 (h) Notwithstanding (c) of this section, a person who is issued a big game  
4 harvest permit or big game tag under this section for a brown bear or a Dall sheep may  
5 engage in the hunt regardless of whether the person has successfully taken a brown  
6 bear or Dall sheep in the state in the four years preceding the raffle or auction at which  
7 the person won the permit or tag.

8 \* **Sec. 5.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2023.